

Night March 20, 2019 to early morning March 21, 2019

1754 Nicole Rodriguez from the USCG is passing along recommendations for TCEQ; she suggests adding information about ITC's proactive and precautionary measures to press releases. These measures include

1. Booming Tucker Bayou and hard booms at the end of Tucker Bayou
2. Adjusting boom constantly
3. Precautionary boom at battleship, booms at San Jac Park for Sananta (sp?) Bayou

~1752 80-5 tank with Xylene ignited; took 27 seconds to put out  
80-8 had hot spots  
The fire fighting foam had perchloro[not overheard]-acid in it  
EPA sampling Buffalo Bayou tomorrow  
EPA also did sampling today  
TPWD asked for boom of battleship earlier today by notifying the Coast Guard of their request  
Benzene hits in neighboring facilities, e.g. Clean Rivers, 0.5-2.0, 2.5 average at Clean Rivers  
Facilities couldn't take samples due to Benzene in some places

1803 4 items +p.phos will be sampled by EPA (turn around for samples estimated 5 days)  
Will be an inversion tonight - if EPA gets hits on benzene they will sample  
There will be EPA guys on Coast Guard boat tomorrow sampling  
Galena Park meeting (with Environmental Justice?) happening now

1817 EPA contractor Weston back from field, report Outfall 003 open and water pouring out  
ITC previously today claimed they closed the outfall  
80-8 and 80-5 tanks have hot spots  
Outfall goes into Tucker Bayou, there are 4 booms before water reaches the ship channel  
SCAT - shoreline cleanup assessment team  
Coast Guard Nicole asks if we have anyone out there doing SCAT

Before Noon Elevated benzene at location (incident location)  
7,11,14 have no roof  
Nicole Bealle: "They are consciously making an effort to not stop the flow of water"

1854 No skimmers observed, no vac trucks (confirm?) vaccing out of Tucker Bayou, no night activity occurs (confirm?)  
Some haziness on who was/is doing what (Coast Guard/ITC?)  
Michael from Weston reported the open outfall 003  
Two tanks without roof and product in them(?)

1920 P.phos and p. foe (sp?) will be tested by EPA tomorrow (@ Buffalo Bayou)  
37.1 method (?)  
TCEQ contractor got a sample of foam  
N.Bealle - request to ask for Coast Guard vessel to be made available  
N.Bealle - What are the labs to be used?  
N.Bealle - What are the methods?  
N. Bealle - What was the quantity of water + foam used?

1933 Reed McClellan and Mike Gaudet from ITC meeting  
Flare-up, no additional fire after the event  
No activity that a person was doing that caused it

1935 "Outfall has not been reopened" - Mike Gaudet  
EPA Steve Mason - request to go verify if outfall open/closed

ITC Mike Gaudet - lots of pipes right there; not sure what pipe that is, confirmed assessment that it appears to be pouring out  
 ITC previously stopped sampling, but now resumed to every 2 hours  
 1938 TCEQ/EPA asks (Kendra and Steve) Where are skimmers and vac trucks?  
 ITC Mike Gaudet made comment saying vac trucks were out there  
 ITC Mike Gaudet not aware of skimmers being deployed; "definitely supposed to be vac trucks"  
 TCEQ requests flow rate of outfall  
 TCEQ requests volume secondary container will hold  
 TCEQ requests volume of foam  
     ITC Mike Gaudet says they should have that  
 TCEQ requests volume of water  
     ITC Mike Gaudet does not know if he can get fire water amounts  
 TCEQ asks if outfall is open, what sparked that opening?  
     ITC Mike Gaudet was not aware of outfall being potentially open  
 ITC Mike Gaudet:  
     Tonight scheduled to move product from 80-7  
     Priority is Pygas due to the nature of the product  
     Have empty tank to move product to; 100-28  
     Will use a 4" line; so it's going to move slowly (estimated to be 2 days)  
 EPA asks what's in secondary containment  
     ITC Mike Gaudet says can't deal with that right now  
     "it's not full of water; it's maybe about 1 foot"  
     There's open top tanks and leaking pipes requiring foam application;  
     must hold what they've got  
 TCEQ says product is being observed in ditch  
 ITC Mike Gaudet is unsure whether pics of ditch are pics of product  
 ITC Mike Gaudet says boom boats and Oil-Mop (sp?) is supposed to handle that;  
     supposedly today and everyday  
 TCEQ indicates that boom was out of water  
     ITC Mike Gaudet says Oil-Mop in charge of that and that someone from  
     ITC was supposed to be overseeing  
 TCEQ suggests to make sure that this is the case  
 ITC Mike Gaudet says maybe 2 tanks, 100,000 gallon tanks are available (empty)  
     to pump product in  
 80-1, 80-4 do not pose a concern that the others do so long as leaks can be  
     stopped  
 1955 TCEQ/EPA informed change of putting q's in writing  
 214-789-1871 Steve Mason EPA  
 214-202-6952 contact info for ??? with EPA  
 ITC planning to put foam blanket on open roof tanks  
 TAGA bus tomorrow to go to area of that meeting, take pic in front of church  
 2151 Facility rep confirmed outfall 003 not open  
 They think it might be coming from surface water drainage  
 EPA: overspray? Outside secondary containment runoff, surface runoff from  
     ditches  
 Facility still contemplating putting "wastewater" from secondary containment  
     through wastewater treatment plant (biological) but say they prefer not to  
     Nicole Morris informed them at the very least they'd need approval from  
     TCEQ, first  
 Jack Coleman says no boat or activity occurring "out there"  
 Oil-Mop meeting within next hour indicating by tomorrow morning there would  
     be a much greater presence

Nicole Bealle suggests sampling tomorrow and securing Coast Guard boat;  
discussion between TCEQ & EPA on “divide and conquer” sampling or side-  
by-side sampling  
7.38 million gallons capacity of secondary containment 175,000 barrels  
They have about 2 foot of freeboard left which may be ~70,000 barrels  
Still in firefighting mode, in the last three hours foam 4 times. Every 4 hours it’s  
18,000 barrels foam and water  
Facility asks to discharge from Outfall 003 due to concerns about amount of  
water in secondary containment  
They hope that foam and oil will float and they would only discharge the bottom  
layer - mostly water, allegedly  
Pumping 80-7 update has suggested faster than 2 days  
Facility worries that tanks that aren’t on fire might be leaking.  
ITC is getting an inventory of every foam used, will take a sample of every type  
of foam and will analyze for p. phos.  
Ordered containers, will be here tomorrow  
EPA had to get special containers, too. Five day turn around.  
Facility hoping to pump all water from secondary containment to tank, add some  
fresh water because the water is brackish and the brackish might kill the plant  
Nicole Bealle: They will have to talk to water permits, it has a lot of  
product in it, may need to be analyzed; it’s a RCRA waste  
The facility prefers to pump to a barge and dispose of it.  
530 readings of benzene but 0 hits; but hits been detected at industry  
Facility is going to work on releasing additional data; i.e. the industrial benzene  
readings  
2341 ITC Mike Gaudet (normal title: Environmental Compliance) comes in to give  
update  
Transferring product - some snags, in the last hour they are trying to regroup  
and move to some different tanks (i.e. not the 80-7 pygas), going to start  
moving product to 80-18 tank (gone through hydrostatic test and needs a  
little extra testing to be sure it is clear of water)  
Surface drain is the discharging point, no sampling at the point but sampling is  
happening downstream  
Trying to start moving product to the new tank tonight; original plan had issues  
with valve  
Control releases - TCEQ suggests sample within a reasonable time, for  
contaminants which could be found in the facility as well as metals and TSS  
ITC developing plan on what to do with water in secondary containment.

Night March 21, 2019 to early morning March 22, 2019

- 1852 Discussion of where to position EPA/TCEQ (upstairs/downstairs) as well as  
debriefing by on site TCEQ/EPA people, Adam (EPA), Steve (EPA), Tina (TCEQ),  
Nicole Bealle (TCEQ)
- 1859 Night ops meeting @ 1900  
Next meeting at 0700
- 1910 In attendance: Coast Guard, TCEQ, ITC, Sheriff Harris County, Harris County Fire  
Marshal (Richard Lawhorn), Houston Fire Department, Harris County Pollution  
Control, CTEH will be added tonight (EPA representative not in attendance)  
Carl Holly ITC Incident Command; Hector Kadina (sp?) ITC Deer Park on scene  
coordinator  
Weather - high pressure to the west, keeping wind from north blowing south,  
eventually the high pressure will calm winds to nothing, then wind moving  
north around 3/3:30pm tomorrow

CTEH team will be set up in the kitchen, air monitoring and sampling/disposal plans

Operations: Fire suppression team: currently adding foam every hour for 20/25 minutes in the area, will continue tonight, until start removing product to 80-7 to 80-18. Will lower submersible pump into 80-7 and pump into 80-18. Hope to have it going within the next couple hours.

Containment and recovery: spill booms, skimmers, taking sampling, flew drone, looking into doing more booming and relocation of booming, resources at risk have protection booming, CTEH developing a resources at risk list.

Checkpoints have been established with police officers, full accountability of work area "hot zone". Three checkpoints total (to the south, and west). Two staging areas. Loading area for foam.

Air operations: Bryce Allen (organization unknown at this time) air ops temporary flight restriction area (1000 feet) 220 air operations summary being created, flight schedules being evaluated. Will do infrared filmography to determine hot spots when tank "punched", "no promises" hope to stream it to EOC.

Objectives (in priority order)

- 1) Safety of personnel and public – security guards and checkpoints, air and water monitoring
- 2) Public health and wellbeing – air and water testing
- 3) Fire suppression – foam blanket
- 4) Conduct damage/stability assessment, develop and implement water removal plan
- 5) Ensure undeterred maritime transportation
- 6) Maximize protection of environmental and socially sensitive areas
- 7) Keep the public, stakeholders, and the media informed

Constraints: weather conditions, air monitoring exceedances, location of incident, availability of resources, permits, access to shoreline (private land), spilled material characteristics, public health, disposal of waste

**"2nd 80's Fire" incident name**

Environmental Unit Leader – CTEH

"Section chiefs have full authority on filling positions; however, ensure agencies are integrated into the organization"

30 minutes prior to release all external releases of information should be approved

Air monitoring Deer Park, Pasadena and La Porte to ITC Portal but to TCEQ and EPA two hours in advance

Immediate reporting:

Injury or death, anything greater than first aid

Air monitoring exceeding action levels

Public health impacts

Any loss of major tactical resources

<and others with immediate safety or resource concerns>

10am press conference, no press release written at this time, request for TCEQ/EPA to push it up in the morning as soon as possible.

Public Information Officer (ITC) has safety concerns with regards to personal safety from the public (police escort requested by PIO)

Liaison Officer Deer Park supposed to have a representative on site (EOC) tonight, probably someone from police department

Going to start trying to pump material out, if emissions come up, need to notify surrounding area but also EOC's

Identify and order the appropriate type of defoamer to prevent foaming in tank 50-2 when liquids are recovered from the ground

Remove Pygas from 80-7, started pumping to 80-18 but have lost prime multiple times, stopped at 1046

ITC to meet with Operations at 00:15 on 3/21 to develop a plan to handle water waste, planning to pump containment area to 100-28 with potential to go to other tanks and potential to go to 80-18, all resources in route.

Identify timeline for next media release, no schedule in place right now but working on it

Schedule a meeting with Deer Park to discuss action levels for air monitoring (did meet earlier this evening, but ongoing) will be representative on site from Deer Park EOC

Obtain radios that will allow ICP to speak to field personnel - complete

Flare up on first 80's manifold, now extinguished and foam being applied (between 80-3 and 80-6 tanks)

Engage NWS to provide forecasts (has been requested)

Helen Environmental lead working on Waste management plan, other plans

Rapid Assessment Plan is complete and with Agencies

Need to move totes of foam out of hot zone to try to sample the foam

ITC employees can't get to work in a shelter in place order

No night operations (water) as of yesterday

Skimmers: 2 (as of this morning)

Vac trucks: 4 (one 150 barrel, four 70 barrel)

Fire is back under control, knocked back down by foam blanket

Breezy out of Southeast right now, will turn Southwest

1952 Discussion of recording data and reporting of air monitoring equipment

Talk with mayor to refine action level suggested (EPA/TCEQ)

2013 Road closures causing logistical issues with transportation

2029 As investigations begin notification will be provided.

2116 Booster pump connection issues, as with Tank 80-8

2202 8 to 10 flange found, working through problem with booster pump connection

2215 Jordan Baldueza switches in for Coast Guard

2233 Benzene smell around Federal Road - Sheriff Harris County (train (sp?) crew smelling benzene Watco on Federal Road down by tunnel, no shelter in place currently in place (1710 Federal Road)

"Guy from their main office" reported it

2250 Connor Wade from Deer Park Police here in ICP

2315 Conversation by Ops about composition of tanks (aluminum vs steel)

2340 CTEH did not find any readings at that location, went up and down the road took a few readings, and did not find anything

2353 Info going to Transtar not being relayed to ICP here. Do they need to verify that information? (The sampling info) Occurred at 8pm, handheld monitoring device collected the data, follow-up reading 0.75 4 minutes later. 20 minutes later non-detect. Benzene

2359 Tank trucks in route, 14 mats per truck

0005 29.751391, -95. 089384 is location of benzene hit in La Porte, winds southwest at 3 miles

0141 They are working on a fitting for the tank to start moving product, no ETA as of yet

0143 The Response Group doesn't have the sharing guidelines yet, so they anticipate it may be tomorrow morning before they will be able to tell us when and to whom the IAP will be sent out

No submersible pump for pumping out the tank yet

0157 2AM conference call, with industries, individuals present: Spencer Woolridge, Kevin Young, Reed McClellan, Tim Gittery, Carl Holly, John Pasquet (all

from ITC); Lyondell Basell, Oxyvinyl, Oxy Deer Park, Oxyvinyl Pasadena, Shell Deer Park, Oxy La Porte, Trimech, Texas Molecular, DOW Chemical, State Park, (??)-battleship, Geospecialty Chemicals

Trying to get pump started 80-7 tank to transfer, fitting problems have happened, once fittings solved then will start the process

Lots of resources, totes, foam, mats, supplied air, five min escape packs, etc. coming in

Need hydraulic fitting problem resolved

Estimated time to action: "next couple hours"

CTEH is giving air monitoring report, since after 5pm there was one detection northeast of the site 1.05 ppm, dissipated in 20 minutes; 0.3 and 0.75 at the monument dissipated to non-detect in 20 minutes

Do not anticipate any offsite impact just because they start pumping

Industries: "How are the vapors displaced from one tank to the next?"  
downspout for degas until RF (?) actually floats

Pumping capability 1400 barrels an hour; 8-9 hours to finish transfer

Industries: "Backup plan in case pump doesn't work?"

Yes, there is a backup plan, ramping up for other plans, may include penetrating tanks and let it drain into tank farm, up to a controlled burn at the tank (last resort)

Industries: "Do you plan to keep highway closed during transfer?"

Yes, that is the plan, but will make sure to keep open for other industry shift change

Industries: What is your security?

Two-point check, badging by The Response Group

0218

Call ended

Night March 22, 2019 to early morning March 23, 2019

1749 One of the laterals burning? Fill the whole area with dry chemical? Maybe burning backwards?

1752 Will do ops briefing at 1900 tonight

1757 May move Incident Command to hotel - Nicole from Coast Guard says

1759 Only thing going "back there" might be a dock line, "need to make sure everything is isolated"

1802 TPWD will join tomorrow, potential field resource (SCAT trained folks) Heather Biggs, going to bring another person

Boats will be provided for the Environmental Unit Leader

There's a line still flowing - that's what's catching fire they think at the manifold (Investigator note: sounds like it's a T-junction with one pipe next to Tidal)

1810 Leaking back into 80-2 and 80-3

Submersible pump was not damaged

1823 No hits since the fire on air samples

"We need to suck up that ditch and suck it up quick. We need as many vac trucks as possible.... Find every vac truck over there at (???) and line them up"

Four vac trucks at one time, 100-28 will be holding tank for vac trucks, asking KK how many vac trucks they can get

US pump and fire has clay coming; clay to build a wall

US pump told to start whenever they are ready, dumping dirt and have dirt equipment

Long stick track hoe is there

More critical to do tank 80-7 or the wall? Asks Incident Command

Foam everywhere, pretty good shape, says hot zone

When ready, hot zone, let us know and we'll give final go-ahead, says IC.

Hit of 1.03 in Channelview

1911 16.59ppm benzene at National Tank Service  
 1915 David Wade Harris County reports detecting 1.03ppm in Channelview  
 1940 Briefing Safety no injuries, no first aid  
 Health - air monitoring done no impact to Deer Park  
 Wind direction shifted, northside and Ship Channel 1.6 in Jacintoport  
 David Wade contacted them  
 Tank containment wall failed impacted environment in to Tucker Bayou, need to  
 remediate and remediate Ship Channel  
 Coast Guard needs to reassess amount in Ship Channel tomorrow morning  
 ITC, CIMA, US Pump and Fire, TNT Fire boat (11pm will be there), Houston Fire  
 (going to be 3 boats)  
 Williams covers two sides, US Pump and Fire cover two sides  
 Objectives  
     1) Remediate ditches  
         a. Rebuild containment wall  
     2) Pump 80-7 to 80-10(?)  
     3) Clay delivered, extended boom, final walkthroughs on 80-7  
 TRG will build out the warehouse downstairs for IC/EOC downstairs  
 OMI, NRC water resources  
 Nighttime operations on Ship Channel will not happen, but Tucker Bayou  
 remediation will  
 Decision to deploy US Coast Guard National Strike Team to remediate Ship  
 Channel - will arrive in the morning  
 Remediate up the ditches, get out as fast as possible  
 Dirt has been deposited into the ditches as a make-shift berm, but water  
 going over the top of the dirt  
 Product still leaking from tanks  
 1950 Meeting adjourned  
 1957 TCEQ: How many vac trucks?  
 SCAT locations: Map  
 80% Mostly nothing, 15% gray slime foam, 5% directed to oil  
 2007 La Porte citizen says they saw smoke  
 START samples:  
     29.732977, -95.0968016  
     In drainage ditch  
     29.7554070, -95.08888998  
     Near battleship Texas  
     VOC, SVOC, COD, Oil & Grease  
 ASPECT down, no night flight, flew this afternoon (mainly hot zone)  
 TAGA bus neighborhoods deer park, battleship, north side of bayou (downwind)  
 7-8am start up  
 2032 5 vac trucks actively pumping Tucker Bayou  
 2046 Battlefield monument area consistently above 1  
 2047 Training facility dorm, odor, CTEH took readings 0.5 - 1.5 benzene, evacuated  
 personnel - From Kirby  
 2055 Two booms holding at the mouth of Tucker Bayou, some product between the  
 booms, hydraulics getting past the booms (mixture of brown stuff) -  
 sheen, entrainment  
 Four booms in bridge area 12 inch (Tucker bayou)  
 2115 North landing at the Lynchburg ferry 1.8 ppm - ITC data  
 1.7ppm Cargill since dissipated - ITC data  
 Caer, directly across buffalo bayou 11ppm, VOC 26ppm - Houston Fire (?)  
 Lynchburg ferry 0.5ppm at 9:10pm - ITC data

2130 2.5 across the river in Channelview, just east of intersection of lakeside drive and  
De Zavalla road (Carpenter's bayou) Update at 2326: 2.5 in the channel -  
may be due to barge fueling

2137 Morgan Johnson, Kirby corporation, 4 vessel crews reporting strong odors,  
nausea, on Carpenter's bayou between Houston fuel oil terminal and  
Kirby training facility (more than one person sent to the hospital)

2151 Wind from the southeast 4 miles an hour

2212 - no updates give to State On-scene Coordinator -

2216 Readings of 6.4 benzene on Tidal, applying foam to knock it down

2255 START team EPA deployed to the area (I-10 and 330 area)

2255 Good to go on the transfer from 80-7 to 80-18

2312 Not sure if they have begun the transfer  
10am press briefing tomorrow (3/23/2019)

2322 "How much foam we got?" - "scheduled through Sunday for tote delivery"

2340 Ferry Terminal A 1.5ppm benzene, Carhill 0.0, Dock "out here" is 0.0 (Port of  
Houston Fire)  
0.08 Benzene on Tidal  
TNT Fire boat coming in 30 minutes to drop boom

2355 TNT Fire boat cannot come through without breaking existing boom line - not  
advised by crews on site

0000 3-foot dike wall with dirt, fire setting up suppression when that's set up we  
would be a go for the pump

0019 Vopak e-notify sustained benzene readings 5ppm (Independence Parkway)

0025 START in Lynchburg not getting any hits

0036 Little over 8500 feet of boom, want to do Old River tonight, and San Jacinto  
tomorrow

0040 Revised actions to pump out 80-7 to 80-18 starting in the morning (0700), want  
to secure dike wall (currently 3 feet tall), containment wall was originally  
6 feet tall  
Carpenter's Bayou now boomed, Battleship Texas boomed, San Jacinto Park east  
side (appears to be entrance to marsh) boomed  
OilMop produced trajectories

0140 Channelview still has hits of benzene, none over 1.0 but a 0.9ppm benzene  
reading detected

0147 3.9ppm on Tidal ITC